



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO
Frank DePaola, Administrator



March 5, 2012

Dawn M. Horan
Realty Specialist
Federal Highway Administration - MA Division
55 Broadway, 10th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02142

RE: Acton- Maynard- Assabet River Rail Trail (604531)

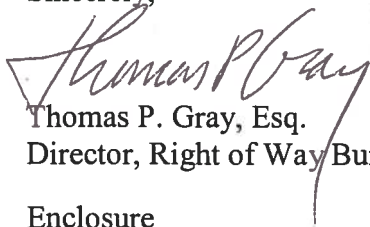
Dear Ms. Horan:

I find Mr. Sullivan's request for a waiver to acquire land, in advance of the 75% design and NEPA certification, acceptable and justifiable. Attached is the copy of a letter dated November 10, 2011, from Michael Sullivan, Town Administrator in Maynard, MA.

As described in Mr. Sullivan's letter, the advance purchase will expedite a land swap between a private abutter and the town to advance a local project resulting in the expansion of a commercial building development (Assessors Map 5, Parcel 95). The land will later be used for the Assabet River Rail Trail project, which is currently under design and receiving federal funding.

I look forward to your reply. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gray, Esq.
Director, Right of Way Bureau

Enclosure

Cc: Pamela Marquis, Compliance Administrator
Marie Rose, Project Development Administrator